

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the examination of the application.

In response to the rejection under 35 USC 112, claims 6 - 13 are now cancelled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 1 - 5 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being unpatentable over USP 5,518,794, hereinafter Barber. Claim 1 has been significantly amended so that it now defines a combination that is not taught or suggested by Barber. Among other features, claim 1 includes wire-shaped grinding elements that have a flat cross-section. Advantages of this combination are described in the specification in the last paragraph of page 5 and the first paragraph of page 6. Dependent claims 5 and 14 are patentable at least because they depend from claim 1.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.


Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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